

PHILLIP ISLAND TENNIS CLUB BALL MACHINE POLICY

VERSION CONTROL

No.	Date	Comments
1	15 July 2021	

Background

Ball machines enable club members to practice without needing to play with others. These machines may however present Health & Safety risks due to their weight, and their ability to repetitively emit large quantities of balls before reloading. There is also potential to impinge on the enjoyment of others using the courts or living nearby as they create a “pop” noise each time a ball is emitted.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to clarify where and when ball machines are allowed to be used at the Phillip Island Tennis Club, and to provide certain requirements relating to their use.

Responsibility

Oversight of this policy is the responsibility of the club committee

Policy

The following conditions apply to the use of ball machines at the Phillip Island Tennis Club:

- Anyone wishing to use a ball machine at the club must firstly request permission from the club committee, in writing. On acceptance of any request, the person wishing to use the ball machine will be provided with a key to the Chapel Street gate.
- Ball machines must be taken into the courts via the Chapel Street gate to avoid the need to lift ball machines up and down stairs.
- Ball machines must only be used on court 4 due to its proximity to the Chapel Street entry gate and to minimise disruption and wear and tear to the most commonly used courts 1 and 2.
- Court usage must be pre-booked on-line using the clubs “Book Your Court” system.
- Bookings can only be made for one time session in each instance. No block bookings for the use of a ball machine is allowed.
- If court 4 has been booked by others and other courts are available, the person wishing to use a ball machine may negotiate to swap courts so that the ball machine can be used on court 4. If such agreement is not forthcoming, the user of the ball machine must find another available time to use court 4.
- Any balls that roll onto other courts must be retrieved in accordance with normal court etiquette.
- Ball machines must only be used between the hours of 9am and 6pm.
- Ball machines must not be used as an aid to coaching others, except by the club approved coach.

The committee will maintain a register of those who have been authorised to use a ball machine and have been issued with a key to the Chapel Street gate.

Ongoing permission will be subject to an annual review and review on receipt of any complaints relating to their use. The committee reserves the right to withdraw permission for the use of a ball machine and to have the key to the Chapel Street gate returned.

Adopted by the Committee on 18 August, 2021

Initial review by: December 2021